THE DISSEMINATOR

Nova Scotia Provincial Library

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SUMMER READING WINNERS ANNOUNCED!

The Nova Scotia Provincial Library and the Council on Youth Services are pleased to announce the winners of the grand prize draw for the 1997 Summer Reading Programme. The Summer Reading Programme is an annual province-wide initiative offered by the regional public libraries in Nova Scotia. Public libraries across the province encourage children and young people to read during the summer months by offering a variety of theme-based activities such as story times, craft activities, games and author readings. This past summer, about 8,500 youngsters participated in the programme, the theme being "*Reading - joust for the fun of it! La lecture - une armure pour la vie*".

Apart from the obvious benefits of reading, one of the incentives used to encourage children to participate in the Summer Reading Programme is the annual grand prize draw. All participants in each local library's programme receives an entry ballot. This year three lucky winners were drawn: James Seely, 12, of Parrsboro; Candice Marie Spinney, 7, of Pubnico; and Derek Nugroho, 5, of Dartmouth. Each winner received a canvas bookbag containing several age-appropriate books related to the medieval theme, a dragon toy, a Programme sweatshirt, a set of fluorescent pencils, and other items. The prizes were kindly donated by Tattletales Books in Dartmouth, a bookstore specializing in books for children and youth.

The production of promotional materials for the Programme, including T-shirts, posters, bookmarks, and pencils, are coordinated by the Nova Scotia Provincial Library and the Council on Youth Services. The 1998 Summer Reading Programme theme will be "*Kids Connect @ the Library / Branchez-vous!*".

ILL REQUEST FORM ON WEB SITE

Among changes to the Provincial Library's Web site (http://www.library.ns.ca), is our new ILL/Location Request Form. Now users of our ILL and Location services can submit their requests right from our Web site. This form is ideal for Nova Scotia libraries who submit requests periodically and for libraries outside of Nova Scotia who wish to submit ILL requests to us. The advantage of using the form instead of sending requests in a regular e-mail message is that the form will prompt users to submit all the necessary information thereby eliminating any ambiguity in the request. The request form can be found on our ILL Services page (http://www.library.ns.ca/provlib/brochure/illser.html).

NEW CEO FOR EASTERN COUNTIES REGIONAL LIBRARY

Linda Travis has just been appointed CEO of the Eastern Counties Regional Library. Linda obtained a master's degree in anthropology from the Universite de Montreal and worked in Mesoamerican archaeology for a few years before redirecting her career and obtaining an MLS from McGill University in 1986.

Since 1986, she has been working in public libraries in her home province of Quebec, first as a reference librarian and later as head of public services in a regional library in the Montreal area. For the last six years, she has been working as the Chief Librarian in a public library on Montreal's south shore (town of Greenfield Park). Linda Travis can be reached at ltravis@nsme.library.ns.ca.

NSGLC MEETS

Most of the member libraries were present when the Nova Scotia Government Libraries Council met for the first of their 1997/98 quarterly meetings on September 3 at the Department of Housing and Municipal Affairs at Summit Place. At this meeting, the formation of a Nova Scotia Special Libraries Union Catalogue came closer to reality when the Common Record Structure for all NSGLC member libraries was approved. All member libraries will be guided in the future by this standard structure when developing their individual catalogues, thereby facilitating the easy exchange of bibliographic information between libraries. The structure has been designed in two levels, the second of which conforms to national standards.

Libraries were also polled as to their holdings contributed to the Canadian Union Catalogue on AMICUS since 1982. The Provincial Library will be supporting the downloading of as many NSGLC member libraries' records as possible (if they are still part of the library's current collections) into a NS Special Libraries Union Catalogue on NcompasS. This measure is in accordance with the recommendations of the 1996 Beaumont and Associates study called "Access to the Holdings of Nova Scotia Libraries".

UPCOMING NSSLA ANNUAL CONFERENCE

The annual Nova Scotia School Library Association (NSSLA) Conference will be held on Friday, October 24 at the Holiday Inn in Dartmouth. Sheldon Mitchell, the new provincial Coordinator of School Libraries will be the lunchtime speaker. The registration desk will open the evening of the 23 between 7:30 and 8:30 pm with a wine and cheese reception to follow. This year's conference is being held at the same site as the Nova Scotia Library Association (NSLA) Conference and, although the dates differ by one day, there is an advantage: those registered for one conference who wish to attend workshops at the other conference are welcome to do so as space permits.

For further information, contact Patricia McDougall, Chairperson, NSSLA Conference '97, c/o Cole Harbour District High School at (902) 464-5243 or at patmcd@atcon.com.

REGIONAL LIBRARY FUNDRAISING IDEAS

Regional libraries in Nova Scotia are raising much needed funds through a variety of creative and successful ideas. As mentioned in a previous issue of THE DISSEMINATOR, the Western Counties Regional Library ran a "How Much is a Million?" penny campaign from May 15 to August 15. Paulette Sweeney-Goodwin of WCRL has just reported that they were able to raise an astounding $16,000 through this campaign!

WCRL is also promoting a new cookbook "Come to Supper: Favourite Recipes from South Western Nova Scotia". The cookbook, a collection of the very best supper recipes from staff and library users alike, was prepared and designed by the library staff and is being offered for sale for $12. The project, sponsored by Sobeys, will be launched Saturday, October 25. The cookbook will also be offered for sale by Virginia Stoddard of WCRL at the Nova Scotia Library Association annual conference in Halifax.

The Cumberland Regional Library has also developed some creative ideas for raising funds. Frances Newman of CURL reports that a number of activities have been successful. The annual "Tea & Sympathy" campaign provides a subtle approach to fundraising. When patrons borrow materials, library staff give them an envelope containing a tea bag and a note urging them to "put up their feet, drink a hot cup of tea, and enjoy reading the books they have recently borrowed from the library". The note goes on to ask for a donation to be used toward the purchase of new books. Newman says that this always generates a great deal of revenue.

CURL also has a year-round recycling campaign, "Every Nickel Can Make a Difference", which urges individuals and businesses to donate their beverage recycling refund to the library. A local recycling depot keeps a tally of those refunds earmarked for the library and makes monthly deposits. Last year, the Amherst branch held a murder mystery evening in conjunction with the Tantramar Theatre Society. A huge success, the event was "standing room only".

Among other fundraising ventures in the library, CURL also receives annual sponsorship for their Summer Reading Programme. The Amherst Credit Union not only donates money toward the purchase of promotional materials for the Programme but last year they also donated money for the purchase of another public access terminal complete with CD-ROM capacity. Newman says that many businesses are happy to donate money but they're typically not aware of the enormous need in libraries. CURL also has other fundraising campaigns including "Put In Your Two Cents Worth" where patrons are urged to donate .60 cents each in honour of CURL's 30th anniversary.

Fundraising schemes can be very time consuming for libraries to develop but for Western Counties Regional Library and Cumberland Regional Library the payoff has been well worth the effort. If you would like more details on these fundraising ideas please contact Virginia Stoddard (vstoddar@nsy.library.ns.ca) at Western Counties Regional Library or Frances Newman (fnewman@nsamc.library.ns.ca) at Cumberland Regional Library.

CAPE BRETON CAP SITES

Within the Cape Breton Regional Library system, CAP sites have become a significant resource in the community for local people and travellers. Since opening the Sydney CAP site, use of the service has remained high, with more than 90% of available time being used. With the help of volunteers, more than 600 people have received beginner Internet training and the requests of patrons have led us to develop Internet job search and search technique sessions.

One library patron, John Ardelli, has been using the Internet access at the McConnell Library at least five times per week, every week, since the site opened in June 1996. He accesses e-mail, participates in discussion groups, develops Web pages, promotes his various interests, and researches ideas for screenplay writing. Prior to June 1996, John had never used the World Wide Web due to lack of access to technical resources.

The experience with the Sydney CAP site has been valuable in the development of two additional CAP sites in which the Cape Breton Regional Library has successfully partnered. Along with BIDA, a downtown business development organization in North Sydney, the library has recently opened a CAP site. Resources are shared between the library and BIDA, which is on the floor above the library. A CAP site in Donkin resulted from a partnership between the library and the Junior High School, where the library branch is housed. Both these sites have just recently opened, but they are already very popular within the communities they serve. -- Rosalie Gillis, CBRL

INTERNATIONAL LITERACY DAY

September 5, 1997 saw quite a celebration of International Literacy Day at the North Branch of the Halifax Regional Library. The events, coordinated by the Literacy Group at the Department of Education and Culture, began with the Premier proclaiming the day and then giving out awards for highest marks in GED completion as well as the Workplace Education Ambassador Awards.

Nancy Hyland and various staff from the Literacy Group discussed the Community Learning Initiative, that is the 27 Learning Networks across Nova Scotia, and the book "Over the Mountain II", a collection of stories and poems created by adult learners. The highlight of the celebration was the screening of the video "All Things Wise and Wonderful", narrated by Tracy Jones and Daniel Comeau. This video, produced by Learning Resources and Technology in partnership with the Halifax Regional Library, the IWK-Grace Health Centre, and the Halifax Northwest Club of Rotary International among others, shows the value of reading to children from birth. The video uses families from all backgrounds and cultural groups to get the message across.

LINKed

In a tribute to the two-week window when we get fresh local produce, the focus this month is on the harvest. If you know of any interesting sites or if you would like to suggest a theme for future columns, please e-mail me (sdirani@nshpl.library.ns.ca).

C.A.F.F.E.I.N.E.
http://www.caffeine.ca/
- A Canadian agrifood directory. This site is searchable and provides info on areas of Canadian agriculture as diverse as aquaculture, beekeeping and pest management.

Canada Agriculture Online
http://www.agcanada.com/
- Canada's doorway to the World of Agriculture. Canada @gOnline is assembled by Farm Business Communications, the nation's largest publisher of farm magazines and newspapers. Includes some online versions of these magazines.

NS Dept. of Agriculture and Marketing
http://www.nsac.ns.ca/nsdam/
- Dept. of Agriculture and Marketing site which includes factsheets and reports as well as information on the Hay Line, a service which connects those looking for hay with those looking to buy it.

NS Agricultural College
http://www.nsac.ns.ca/nsac/index.htm
- Information about College programs and services and, of course, a link to the online library catalogue.
-- Sue Dirani

REFERENCE ON THE NET

More reference questions received at the NS Provincial Library which were answered using the Internet.

Q. Where can I find maps of Japan?

A. A site was found using Yahoo! (www.yahoo.com) by following the path "Regional:Countries:Japan: Maps". This brings you to a page called "Japan Maps" (http://www.jnto.go.jp/02map/japanmap.html) which is part of the Japan National Tourist Organization Website. Other search engines such as Infoseek (www.infoseek.com) and AltaVista (www.altavista.digital.com) turned up the following sites when the keywords "Japan maps" were entered: City Net Japan Maps (http://www.city.net/countries/japan/maps/); Japan - Maps (http://www.accessasia.com/xroad/xrjpmap.html).

Q. Would like recent information on a fertility drug called "serophene". Are birth defects associated with it?

A. RxList - The Internet Drug Index (http://www.rxlist.com/) has a lengthy article on serophene. Additional information about it can be found by entering the keywords "serophene birth defects" at the Metacrawler Search Engine (www.lib.ua.edu/mcrawler.htm). This turned up additional articles including

ones at the Atlanta Reproductive Health Centre WWW Site (www.ivf.com/clom.html) and the North Carolina Center for Reproductive Medicine (www.fuzz.com/nccrm/03.htm). -- Carol Morris

PROFESSIONAL READING

In this month's column, we are featuring two publications of particular interest to public libraries. We are also highlighting a website which deals with government information in Canada. The books can be borrowed from the Provincial Library's professional collection through regular interlibrary loan channels.

1) Council of Administrators of Large Urban Public Libraries - **Canadian Public Library Statistics**. Mississauga: Mississauga Library System, 1996. (Call # Prof. 027.471 Cou)

This annual report of statistics on large urban public libraries in Canada is produced by the Mississauga Library system for the Council of Administration of Large Urban Public Libraries. It contains detailed information on finances, collections and services offered by the big urban public libraries in Canada. It also provides information on World Wide Web addresses and e-mail addresses for these libraries. The Provincial library maintains a backfile of these reports beginning with 1994.

2) New Brunswick Department of Municipalities, Culture and Housing. Stakeholders Advisory Committee - **The New Brunswick Public Library System Review: Report to the Minister of Municipalities, Culture & Housing**. Fredericton: The Committee, 1996. (Prof. Call# Prof. 027 .47151 New)

This report is the culmination of a thorough review of the New Brunswick Public Library System. It was initiated by the New Brunswick Department of Municipalities, Culture & Housing, to ensure that the province's public library system continues to be able to meet the challenges and opportunities offered by the introduction of new technology and electronic access to information. The report defines the problems currently confronting the New Brunswick Public Library System, proposes options and makes recommendations.

3) An electronic journal called "Government Information in Canada" (http://www.usask.ca/library/gic/) is available on the Web. Its purpose is to promote the discussion and study of Canadian federal, provincial/territorial and local government information and it is published quarterly by the University of Saskatchewan. The website also has all the back issues of this journal. Regular features include information on access to government information, privacy issues, copyright, and general topics relating to government information. The latest issue features two excellent articles: one on the use of the Internet by municipal governments and another on the National Atlas Information Service (NAIS). It is definitely worth checking out! -- Frank Oram

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